

Message Text

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SUBJECT:NPG - GUIDANCE FOR 1 SEPT STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: USNATO 4417 DTG 201835Z AUG 75

1. IN RESPONDING TO UK SUGGESTION FOR A STUDY OF NATO AIR DEFENSE YOU SHOULD USE THE FOLLOWING: WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A REQUIREMENT IN NATO FOR A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY WHICH EXAMINES THE TOTAL COUNTER-AIR CAPABILITY OF NATO, INCLUDING SAMs, FIGHTER-INTERCEPTOR AIRCRAFT, CONTROL SYSTEMS AND COUNTER-AIR ATTACKS ON WP AIRBASES. WITHIN THE OVERALL CON-
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TEXT OF SUCH A STUDY A USEFUL EVALUATION OF THE CONTRIBUTION

AND LIMITATIONS OF NUCLEAR AIR DEFENSES COULD BE MADE. IT SEEMS TO US MORE APPROPRIATE THAT AN EFFORT SUCH AS THIS BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE NATO MILITARY COMMITTEE IN CONJUNCTION WITH AWACS AND OTHER IMPENDING AIR DEFENSE FORCE DECISIONS BY COUNTRIES; RATHER THAN BY THE NPG. ALTHOUGH WE DOUBT THAT AN MC EFFORT OF THIS MAGNITUDE COULD BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR THE FALL NPG, MISSION SHOULD QUERY MC ON THE POTENTIAL FOR DRAFTING THE AIR DEFENSE PORTION OF SUCH A STUDY FOR NPG MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION. FYI: THE US UNILATERAL AIR BATTLE STUDY IS PROCEEDING. PHASE I, THE METHODOLOGY AND BASE CASE DEVELOPMENT IS NOW COMPLETED, HOWEVER WE DO NOT ENVISAGE MAKING ANY PROPOSALS OR PRESENTATIONS FROM THIS STUDY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. END FYI

2. THE US SCOPE PAPER FOR PHASE III IS IN DRAFT AND SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO YOU SOON AFTER 1 SEPTEMBER.

3. THE MISSION VIEW ON PREPARATION OF A REPORT ON COUNTRY REQUESTS FOR NUCLEAR RELEASE IS IN ACCORD WITH OUR VIEW. YOU MAY PURSUE THE COURSE OF ACTION YOU HAVE SUGGESTED. INGERSOLL

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